

REGULAR NORTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 26, 2010

The North Providence School Committee met on May 26, 2010 at 6:35 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room at the High School. Members present were Chairwoman Reall, Mr. Cataldi, Mr. Marciano, Mr. Iannetta, Mr. Palmieri, Mrs. Picard and Ms. Leva. Also present was Superintendent Ottaviano, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Henneous and Mr. Scungio. Dr. Donoyan, Mr. Lynch and Mr. Milazzo were present for the public session only. Appropriate disclosure was made by the Chair concerning compliance with R.I. General Laws 42-46-5(a)(1) indicating that any person to be discussed had been appropriately notified.

Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and carried to go into open session at 6:30 p.m. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mrs. Picard and carried to recess the regular session and convene in Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. in accordance with R.I. General Laws 42-46-4 and 5 for the purpose of Collective Bargaining Update, Legal

Advice re: Personnel Matter, Legal Advice re: Deficit Reduction Plan, and North Providence/ACLU Truancy Court Litigation Update. The Chair, by open call, polled the present Members of the Committee who voted unanimously to move into Executive Session for the purpose stated.

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:35 p.m. into regular session as a result of the unanimous vote of the Members of the Committee to recess the Executive Session and reconvene into open session.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

II. SALUTE TO FLAG

The Chair led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

III. CHAIR TO REPORT OUT ANY VOTES TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECEIVE MOTION BY COMMITTEE MEMBER TO SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES PURSUANT TO APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF RIGL 42-46-(4) & (5).

The Chair reported that any person discussed in Executive Session had been notified in advance and in writing.

Next, the Chair reported that there were votes taken in Executive Session.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Marciano to seal the Minutes of the May 26, 2010 Executive Session in accordance with RIGL 42-46-4 and 5. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Ms. Leva, aye and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair next reported that there was no correspondence received.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS 3-4.

No comments were received.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Teacher of the Year.

Superintendent Ottaviano outlined the process used by the Screening Committee to review the Teacher of the Year Nominees and the qualities necessary for the award. She next read the list of nominees

from each of the schools as follows: Birchwood Middle School – Elissa Hogan, Centredale School – Kathleen Niedfeldt, Greystone School – Jody Graziano, Marieville School – Alacyn L. Lanzieri, McGuire School – Melissa D. Ferrara, Ricci Middle School – Ryan Clinton, Stephen Olney School – Karen Baglini, Whelan School – Susan Coughlin, and North Providence High School – Lisa D. Pasonelli. She next announced that the recipient of the 2009-2010 Teacher of the Year is Lisa D. Pasonelli. She next read a piece from Lisa's application before presenting her with a plaque. Next the nominees were presented with certificates and Ms. Pasonelli was presented with a plaque. The Chair dismissed anyone wishing to leave the meeting. She also added that in order to accommodate schedules, Mr. Milazzo would like to discuss a proposal from National Grid under "Buildings and Grounds." Hearing no objection, the Committee asked Mr. McLaughlin to speak about the proposal.

XV. PENDING BUSINESS

2. Buildings and Grounds.

Mr. McLaughlin from National Grid presented a handout to the Committee regarding a comprehensive proposal to provide natural gas service to seven schools in the district, including Whelan School, Marieville School, Stephen Olney School, Birchwood School, McGuire School, Centredale School and Greystone School. He outlined the proposal, including the fact that McGuire and Greystone will require

new gas service. He also outlined the costs of the project. Members of the Committee asked questions and offered comments. The Chair thanked Mr. McLaughlin for his presentation. The Committee returned to the regular Agenda format.

VI. Superintendent's Report

2. Monthly Financial Report.

Superintendent Ottaviano asked for advice and consent of the School Committee for approval of the May Monthly Financial Report as presented. Ms. Leva asked about the change in the Line Item amount for Legal Fees. Mr. Robinson spoke about forwarding the requested information to the Committee several weeks ago. Ms. Leva requested that the Minutes of the March meeting be reviewed to see what the Committee voted on with regard to the Legal Fees. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No 10-05-01. Be it resolved that, at the request of the Superintendent, the Monthly Financial Report for April be approved. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mr. Leva, nay and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 1.

3. Field Trip Requests.

Superintendent Ottaviano turned the meeting over to Dr. Donoyan.

Dr. Donoyan recommended approval of the Field Trips as submitted and in accordance with School Committee policy. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 10-05-03. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee grant advice and consent to the Field Trip Requests as presented and in accordance with School Committee policy. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

4. Kids Club Contract Extension.

Superintendent Ottaviano asked for the advice and consent of the Committee for approval of the Kids Club Contract Extension as submitted. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Cataldi as to Resolution No. 10-05-04. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee grant advice and consent to the Kids Club Contract Extension as submitted. Mr. Cataldi congratulated Mr. Palmieri on all his hard work to get this program started. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Ms. Leva, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

5. Educator Code of Professional Responsibility.

Superintendent Ottaviano asked for the advice and consent of the Committee for approval of the Educator Code of Professional Responsibility presented to the Committee. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Cataldi as to Resolution No. 10-05-05. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee grant advice and consent to the Educators Code of Professional Responsibility. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

6. 2010 Strategic Plan.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the 2010 Strategic Plan as submitted and to meet the requirements of the Rhode Island Department of Education. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Palmieri as to Resolution No. 10-05-06. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve the 2010 Strategic Plan as presented. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Ms. Leva, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

7. Deficit Reduction Plan.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Deficit Reduction Plan as submitted to the Town and required by the Auditor General. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and carried as to Resolution No. 10-05-07. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve the Deficit Reduction Plan as presented. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Ms. Leva, nay and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 1.

8. Race To The Top Application.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Race To The Top Application as submitted. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Marciano as to Resolution No. 10-05-08. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve the Race To The Top Application as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

9. Johnson & Wales Student Bullying Survey.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Johnson & Wales Student Bullying Survey. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded

by Mrs. Picard as to Resolution No. 10-05-09. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve the Johnson & Wales Student Bullying Survey. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

10. North Providence/ACLU Truancy Court Litigation Settlement.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Proposed Consent Order as submitted to the Committee. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Ms. Leva as to Resolution No. 10-05-10. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve the North Providence/ACLU Truancy Court Litigation Settlement. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

VII. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS.

1. Age Requirements for Registration – Mr. Palmieri.

Motion by Mr. Palmieri, seconded by Mr. Marciano to look into a new

policy to allow the Committee to make an exception to the current age requirements regarding eligibility for admission to kindergarten. Discussion took place regarding the feasibility of the request and members of the Committee offered comments and voiced concerns regarding changing the policy. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, nay, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, nay, Mr. Marciano, aye and the Chair, nay. The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 3.

2. Field Trip Policy – Mrs. Picard.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Cataldi to revise the Policy so that out of state trips are no longer required to be approved by the School Committee provided the requests are for trips during the school day and that there is no request for overnight trips. Discussion took place regarding the issue and members of the Committee offered comments. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

3. Special Permission Transfers – Mr. Palmieri.

Mr. Palmieri spoke about the policy that the Committee developed and voted on at the November 2009 meeting to allow transfers on a case-by-case basis and that the child would be grandfathered in so

that they would not have to get annual permission. The Superintendent deferred to legal counsel to provide an interpretation.

Mr. Henneous spoke about the two types of transfers, voluntary and involuntary. He added that the Committee could clarify the Policy to grandfather those requests. The Chair agreed to set up a Committee to review the Policy.

VIII. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

The request to address the Committee was withdrawn.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of Awarding Bids.

No bids were received.

2. Consideration of Resignations; Retirements; Leaves of Absence; Dismissals; Layoffs; Non-Renewals; Layoff Rescissions; Appointments/Other.

A. Resignations.

Superintendent Ottaviano asked for the advice and consent of the

Committee for the following resignations: Ashley Armenti – Head Cheerleading Coach – NPHS Effective May 3, 2010; Charlene Centracchio – Sophomore Class Advisor (Class of 2012) – NPHS Booster Club Advisor – NPHS Effective at the End of the 2009/2010 School Year; John A. Cerra, Jr. – Science Department Chair – NPHS, Audio-Visual Director – NPHS, Stockroom Manager – NPHS Effective at the End of the 2009/2010 School Year; and Lee Sisak – Grade 5 Elementary Teacher @ Greystone School Effective at the End of the 2009/2010 School Year. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 10-05-12. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve the resignations as submitted. Members of the Committee offered comments. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye and the Chair, aye. Mr. Palmieri was not present for the vote. The vote carried by unanimous consent of the members present.

B. Retirements.

No retirement requests were submitted.

C. Leaves of Absence.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended that the Committee approve the Leave of Absence Requests from Joanne Andreozzi – Crossing

Guard for FMLA Paid Leave Effective May 17, 2010 through June 8, 2010 and FMLA Unpaid Leave Effective June 9, 2010 through the end of the 2009/2010 School Year; Ronald D'Andrea – Custodian – Centredale Elementary School – 1st Shift – FMLA Unpaid Leave Effective May 10, 2010 through August 6, 2010; Holly Fulgham – Special Educator/Resource Teacher – Greystone/McGuire Elementary Schools FMLA Paid Leave Effective April 12, 2010 through April 16, 2010 and FMLA Unpaid leave Effective April 26, 2010 through the end of the 2009/2010 School Year; Michael Liguori – Secondary Biology Teacher @ NPHS for Unpaid Leave of Absence Effective for the 2010/2011 School Year; Richard Marchione – Custodian – Ricci Middle School – 2nd Shift for FMLA Paid Leave Effective March 30, 2010 through April 9, 2010 and FMLA Unpaid Leave Effective April 12, 2010 through June 25, 2010; Judith Nahabedian – Secondary Librarian – NPHS FMLA Paid Leave Effective May 17, 2010 through the end of the 2009/2010 School Year; Pamela Raymond – Crossing Guard for Paid FMLA Leave from May 10, 2010 through May 13, 2010 and Unpaid FMLA Leave Effective May 13, 2010 through the end of the 2009/2010 School Year; and Cheryl Thibodeau – Kindergarten Teacher @ Marieville Elementary School for Paid Medical Leave Effective April 26, 2010 through May 13, 2010 and Unpaid Medical Leave Effective May 14, 2010 through May 21, 2010. Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and Ms. Leva as to Resolution No. 10-05-14. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve the Leave of Absence Requests as presented by the Superintendent. A

roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, ay, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

D. Appointments.

No Appointments were submitted.

E. Layoffs/Non-Renewals.

No Layoffs/Non-Renewals were submitted.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business was presented.

XI. USE OF PROPERTY REQUESTS

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended that the Committee grant advice and consent to the approval of the Use of Property Requests submitted which were not previously approved, based on School Committee Policy, availability and the request meeting all the necessary conditions. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mrs. Picard as to Resolution No. 10-05-19. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School

Committee grant advice and consent to the approval of the Use of Property Requests as submitted with the additional language for the Ocean State Amateur Basketball League request to add that the High School Athletic Director be involved with the exception of the North Providence Teachers request for use of Ricci Gym, which is denied. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried unanimous consent..

XII. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the List of Bills as presented and submitted to the Committee. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 10-05-20. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee grants advice and consent to approve and pay the April 2010 List of Bills in the amount of \$1,849,409.05. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, nay, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 1.

XIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Marciano as to Resolution No. 10-05-21. Be it resolved that, at the Recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve and seal the Minutes of the April 28, 2010 Executive Session in accordance with R.I.G.L. 42-46-4 and 5. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye, Ms. Picard, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Ms. Leva, aye and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Marciano as to Resolution No. 10-05-21. Be it resolved that, at the Recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve the Minutes of the April 28, 2010 Regular School Committee Meeting. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Marciano, aye and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS IN AGENDA ITEMS 7 - 13.

Public comments were received.

XV. PENDING BUSINESS

There being no pending business, the Committee moved on to the next agenda item.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Ms. Leva and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Margie Caranci,
Recording Secretary of the North Providence
School Committee**

Date Submitted to Committee:

Date Approved by the Committee: